

National Transportation Safety Board
Washington, DC 20594

Printed on : 8/14/2011 3:56:45 PM

Brief of Accident

Adopted 02/26/2007

ANC06FA018 File No. 20929	01/25/2006	Ketchikan, AK	Aircraft Reg No. N104XX	Time (Local): 12:50 AST		
Make/Model:	Aero Vodochody / L-39MS			Fatal	Serious	Minor/None
Engine Make/Model:	Povazske Stroguearne / DV-2		Crew	1	0	0
Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed		Pass	0	0	0
Number of Engines:	1		Other	0	0	5
Operating Certificate(s):	None					
Type of Flight Operation:	Ferry					
Reg. Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation					
Last Depart. Point: Sitka, AK			Condition of Light: Day			
Destination: Same as Accident/Incident Location			Weather Info Src: Weather Observation Facility			
Airport Proximity: Off Airport/Airstrip			Basic Weather: Instrument Conditions			
			Lowest Ceiling: 1200 Ft. AGL, Broken			
			Visibility: 4.00 SM			
			Wind Dir/Speed: 307 / 014 Kts			
			Temperature (°C): 2			
			Precip/Obscuration: Light - Snow; Mist			
Pilot-in-Command	Age: 39		Flight Time (Hours)			
Certificate(s)/Rating(s)	Airline Transport; Commercial; Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land		Total All Aircraft: 3584			
			Last 90 Days: 90			
			Total Make/Model: 129			
Instrument Ratings			Total Instrument Time: 180			
Airplane						

The airline transport certificated pilot was on a Title 14, CFR Part 91 ferry flight in a military jet surplus warbird when the airplane collided with water and a residential area during an instrument approach to land. During the circle-to-land contact approach, the pilot was advised by an FAA flight service station specialist at the island airport that the weather did not look favorable for a contact approach due to low clouds and visibility. A pilot-rated witness on the shore across from the island reported seeing the airplane descend from the clouds and strike the ocean three times before it climbed out of sight. The witness described the visibility as about 3/4 mile in blowing snow. The airplane continued to fly for approximately 2.3 miles, until other witnesses near a town on the shore heard the engine stop, and saw the jet and a parachute at a low altitude. The airplane collided with the ground in a large lot, and continued into an occupied trailer home and parked vehicles. A postcrash fire ensued. Inspection of the airplane disclosed no preimpact mechanical problems with the airplane. The loss of engine power was consistent with the water impact which damaged the inlet fan and compressor stator. The circle-to-land minimum descent altitude for aircraft with a 120 knot approach speed is 2,500 feet msl, and requires 3 miles visibility. Prior to impact, the pilot attempted to eject from the airplane at a low altitude. The ejection was unsuccessful, and the pilot struck a tree while still in the ejection seat. Inspection of the ejection apparatus disclosed no evidence of any preimpact malfunction.

Brief of Accident (Continued)

ANC06FA018				
File No. 20929	01/25/2006	Ketchikan, AK	Aircraft Reg No. N104XX	Time (Local): 12:50 AST

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: CIRCLING (IFR)

Findings

1. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - BELOW APPROACH/LANDING MINIMUMS
 2. (C) IFR PROCEDURE - NOT FOLLOWED - PILOT IN COMMAND
 3. TERRAIN CONDITION - WATER
-

Occurrence #2: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER(TOTAL) - MECH FAILURE/MALF
Phase of Operation: CIRCLING (IFR)

Findings

4. (C) COMPRESSOR ASSEMBLY,FORWARD FAN - FRACTURED
 5. (C) COMPRESSOR ASSEMBLY,STATOR VANE - FRACTURED
-

Occurrence #3: FORCED LANDING
Phase of Operation: EMERGENCY DESCENT/LANDING

Occurrence #4: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: EMERGENCY DESCENT/LANDING

Findings

6. BAIL-OUT/EMERGENCY EJECTION - NOT SUCCESSFUL - PILOT IN COMMAND
7. TERRAIN CONDITION - RESIDENTIAL AREA

Findings Legend: (C) = Cause, (F) = Factor

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident as follows.

The pilot's failure to follow published instrument landing procedures and his descent below approach minimums during an IFR circle to land approach, which resulted in the airplane striking the ocean and a loss of engine power. Factors contributing to the accident were low clouds and snow.